

# Legislative Reference Service

WEEK ENDING 2-2-01

NO. 1

## CODE ENFORCEMENT

**H-5035 LEAD POISONING PREVENTION** (SanBento & Others) This act would permit property owners of homes built prior to 1976 to install replacement windows without the necessity of any building permits. Corporations

**S-108 ELECTRICIANS** (Badeau) This act prohibits hoisting engineers from installing electrical wiring or making service connection of any electrical wires or cables, but allows for the excavation and installation of underground conduits, and provides for issuance of building permits for the installation. Labor

## EDUCATION AND SCHOOLS

**H-5009 TEXTBOOKS** (Slater & Others) This act would amend the reporting date for the joint commission to study the state textbook loan program and would extend the commission's termination date. Read and Passed

**H-5028 SCHOOL BUSES** (Jacquard & Others) This act would require that effective August 1, 2001, all school buses purchased for use in the state be equipped with safety belts for each passenger and operator seat, and further require mandatory safety belt use by the school bus operator and each passenger. H.E.W.

**H-5050 TARGETED SCHOOL AID** (Jacquard & Others) This act would remove the requirement that school districts have a free and reduced lunch count in grades K-3 greater than 40% in order to receive targeted school aid. Finance

**H-5063 PUBLIC NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOL EMPOWERMENT** (Giannini & Others) This act requires local public schools to accept all local children living within that school's radius. Finance

**H-5066 TARGETED SCHOOL AID** (Corvese & Others) This act changes the district requirements for eligibility for targeted school aid. Finance

**H-5113 PESTICIDE CONTROL** (McNamara & Abdullah-Odiase) This act would establish the conditions under which pesticide applications would occur at schools and child care centers, and would provide for notice of pesticide applications to parents and guardians of children and to school staff. H.E.W.

**H-5123 REGIONALIZATION BONUS** (Gorham & Others) This act would re-establish Section 16-7-20.5 as the method by which regionalization bonuses would be computed. Finance

**H-5129 EDUCATIONAL EXPENSE EXEMPTION** (Giannini & Others) This act provides for a tax credit which equals 20% of the first \$150 spent on qualifying educational expenses for any student in a qualified institution, including home care. It also provides that certain low-income families would have the tax credit regardless of tax liability. Finance

**H-5149 CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS** (Gallison & Others) This act would require that funding for charter public schools be approved by the voters of each local district at either a regularly scheduled financial town meeting or budget meeting. Corporations

**H-5159 SCHOOL BUDGETS** (Levesque) This act would amend the appeals process by providing that the school committee appeal to the commissioner of education, whose decision would be appealable to the Superior Court. Corporations

**H-5166 SCHOOL BUSES** (McNamara & Others) This act would require that all school buses transporting children 10 years of age or younger shall be equipped with safety belts. H.E.W.

**H-5185 PRIVATE SCHOOLS** (Picard) This act would permit students who attend a private school to participate as a member of a public school team if their private school does not field a team in that sport. H.E.W.

**H-5260 T.D.I. – TEACHERS** (Barr) This act would require that teachers and non-unionized state employees be eligible to receive temporary disability insurance. Labor

**H-5286 LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENT STUDENTS** (George & Others) This act would eliminate programs and state reimbursement for English as a second language. The

act would also eliminate the State Advisory Council pertaining to the education of limited English proficient students. H.E.W.

**H-5288 CRIMINAL RECORDS REVIEW** (McNamara & Others) This act would require a national criminal records check for any person seeking employment with a public school department. H.E.W.

**H-5322 ADVANCED DIPLOMAS** (McNamara & Others) This act would require that the Board of Regents award advanced diplomas to those students who have achieved higher than minimum state academic standards. This act would also allow the Board to grant admission to state colleges and universities to those students who have met the standard. H.E.W.

**H-5351 TOBACCO PRODUCTS** (McNamara & Others) This act would prohibit the advertising of tobacco products within one mile of any school. H.E.W.

**H-5352 SCHOOL VIOLENCE PREVENTION TRAINING** (McNamara & Others) This act would require all applicants for teacher certificates after February 2, 2003, to have completed at least 2 hours of school violence training. H.E.W.

**H-5365 RESIDENCE OF CHILDREN** (Gorham & Others) This act would prohibit students whose dwelling is physically located in another state from attending public schools in Rhode Island. H.E.W.

**H-5378 STUDENT IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS** (Ajello & Others) This act would prohibit, commencing on July 1, 2005, public educational institutions from assigning a student an identification number which incorporates the students social security number, and prohibits the display of 4 or more consecutive numbers of a social security number on any publically accessible document. H.E.W.

**H-5384 TOBACCO REPARATIONS ALLOCATION** (Maher & Others) This act would set aside 15% of the tobacco settlement funds for the school departments of the cities and towns to be based upon the percentage share of state income tax paid by the residents. Finance

**H-5388 SCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS** (Barr) This act would allow private school students to participate in sports programs offered by the public schools of their community if that program is not offered by the school which they attend. Corporations

**H-5399 SCHOOL DIVERSITY OFFICER** (Cicilline & Dennigan) This act would provide for a diversity officer in each school of the state. Finance

**H-5416 VIOLENT INCIDENT REPORT SYSTEM** (McNamara & Others) This act would provide for an annual violent incident report from each city, town or regional school district. H.E.W.

**S-6 RHODE ISLAND CONSTITUTION** (Issa & Others) This act would require public schools to begin each school day with the Preamble of the State Constitution. H.E.W.

**S-99 STUDENT INVESTMENT INITIATIVE** (Igliozi & Others) This act would provide students from single family homes with additional educational services. Finance

**S-101 TARGETED SCHOOL AID** (Igliozi & Others) This act would remove the requirement that school districts have a free and reduced lunch count in grades K-3 greater than 40% in order to receive targeted school aid. Finance

**S-102 TRUANCY** (Igliozi & Others) This act would establish an elementary and secondary education truancy investment fund in order to enable school districts to improve attendance rates. Finance

**S-104 NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOL PLANS** (Igliozi & Others) This act would allow all city/town councils to pass an ordinance that would require school districts to develop and implement a neighborhood school plan. H.E.W.

**S-124 STUDENT IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS** (Cicilline & Others) This act would prohibit, commencing on July 1, 2005, public educational institutions from assigning an identification number which incorporates the student's social security number, and prohibits the display of 4 or more consecutive numbers of a social security number on any publically accessible document. H.E.W.

**S-192 CELL PHONES** (Cicilline & Others) This act shall provide that all use of cellular phones by a school bus driver shall be prohibited, except in the case of an emergency. H.E.W.

**S-215 TRANSPORTATION OF SCHOOL PUPILS** (Hunter – By Request) This act would require all public school districts to transport school children to and from child care facilities located within that school district's boundaries. Finance

## **ELECTIONS**

**H-5289 IRREGULAR BALLOTS** (Bierman & Others) This act provides that a vote cast for a write-in candidate would be valid if the intent of the voter can be determined by the local Board of Canvassers. Special Legislation

**S-61 CHANGE OF DESIGNATION** (Raptakis & Others) This act would reduce the waiting period required for disaffiliation with a political party from 90 days to 30 days. Judiciary

## **ENVIRONMENT**

**H-5228 WATER AND SEWER LINES** (Barr) This act requires water and sewer companies to maintain water and sewer lines, wherever located, from the street to the building being serviced. Corporations

**H-5344 TRASH HAULERS** (Cerra & Others) This act would enable a city/town where a landfill is located to, by ordinance, issue licenses to any trash haulers dumping at said landfill, and impose a fee for the issuance of a license. Corporations

## **FINANCE AND TAXATION**

**H-5010 HOTEL TAX** (Pires & Others) This act would make changes to the hotel tax. Read and Passed

**H-5015 TAX SALES** (SanBento & Others) This act would amend certain provisions of the law relating to tax sales, including the taxing entities entitled to a lien and the manner of notice of tax sales. Corporations

**H-5021 TOBACCO SETTLEMENT** (Williamson) This act would require all funds received by the state from the tobacco settlement to be distributed equally to the cities and towns. Finance

**H-5023 POWER TO BORROW MONEY** (Williamson) This act would permit municipalities to borrow money from recognized financial institutions in order to acquire certain types of properties. Corporations

**H-5030 NEW AUTOMOBILE INVENTORY** (SanBento & Others) This act would exempt the inventory of a new automobile held by the dealer for sale in the normal course of business from the municipal property tax. Corporations

**H-5044 SPECIAL EDUCATION FUND** (Williamson) This act would provide increased funding for special education for fiscal year 2001-2002. The act would also establish a legislative commission to evaluate the scope and costs of services to special education students in Rhode Island. Finance

**H-5070 SCHOOL AID** (Corvese & Others) This act would require the state to provide aid to the several cities and towns for the cost of education on a graduated basis. Finance

**H-5078 NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS** (Giannini & Others) This act would permit municipalities to collect payments and/or services in lieu of taxes from certain nonprofit organizations. Finance

**H-5103 PAYMENT IN LIEU** (Sherlock & Others) This act provides for an alternative computation for state education aid funding, and adds any airport serving over 1,000,000 passengers a year to the General Assembly appropriations in lieu of property tax program. Finance

**H-5104 PARKING GARAGE TAX** (Sherlock & Others) This act would impose a 7% sales tax fee upon an individual who parks a vehicle in a garage of 1 or more levels, and would distribute the total tax in full to all municipalities. Finance

**H-5105 MOTOR VEHICLE RENTALS** (Sherlock & Others) This act provides that 50% of the sales tax on automobile rentals would be distributed to the city/town where the automobile was rented. Finance

**H-5106 LEASEHOLD IMPROVEMENTS** (Sherlock & Others) This act would require tenants of quasi-public corporations which are businesses for profit to be liable for taxes on any leasehold improvements. Corporations

**H-5128 VETERANS** (Iwuc & Others) This act would extend veterans' benefits to all veterans with an honorable discharge. Finance

**H-5142 HOTEL TAX** (W.H. Murphy & Others) This act would provide that 1% of the 6% hotel tax be distributed to the city/town which generated the tax. Judiciary

**H-5176 STATE PROPERTY TAXED TO LESSEE OR TENANT** (McNamara & Others) This act would provide that state owned real estate which is leased to a private individual or company would not be exempt from taxation by the municipality in which the real estate is located, including property owned by public and quasi-public corporations. Corporations

**H-5177 LEASES, CONCESSIONS, AND LICENSES** (McNamara & Others) This act would permit cities and towns to assess taxes similar to real estate taxes against license and concession holders at state airports. Corporations

**H-5202 PARKING GARAGES** (McNamara & Others) This act would provide that state sales tax shall be applied to revenue generated by parking garages and lots in the state. The tax shall be distributed in full to each municipality. Finance

**H-5211 PAYMENT IN LIEU** (Barr) This act would provide for an appropriation to cities and towns with state parks located therein to reimburse them for the cost of services provided. Finance

**H-5215 STATE AID – RESIDENCY** (Barr & George) This act would penalize any municipality that has a residency rule by withholding 50% of general state aid and education aid in 2001, and 100% of the aid in 2002. Finance

**H-5216 FORM REQUIRED FOR TAX EXEMPTION** (Pisaturo) This act would require annual written certification from any business claiming a property tax exemption pursuant to Rhode Island general law. Finance

**H-5303 HOTEL TAX** (McNamara & Others) This act would make changes to the hotel tax. Finance

**H-5338 URBAN INVESTMENT TAX CREDIT** (Moura & Others) This act would create the Urban Investment Tax Credit Act of 2001. Finance

**H-5387 VIDEO LOTTERY TERMINALS** (Barr & Others) This act would increase the host community share of the allocation of net terminal income derived from video lottery games from one percent to three percent. Finance

**S-23 LEASEHOLD IMPROVEMENTS** (Revens & Others) This act would require tenants of quasi-public corporations which are businesses for profit to be liable for taxes on any leasehold improvements. Finance

**S-29 STATE AID TO VOCATIONAL EDUCATION** (Fogarty & Others) This act would require the state to annually pay for the tuition and related costs for students attending a state elementary or secondary vocational education school. The payments would be made directly to the respective schools. Finance

**S-31 PAYMENT IN LIEU** (Cicilline & Others) This act increases the PILOT Program reimbursement to the cities and towns over the next 5 years. Finance

**S-35 EXTENSION OF VETERANS' BENEFITS** (Issa & Others) This act would move back the date that defines Vietnam service from December 22, 1961 to February 28, 1961. Veterans Affairs

**S-71 HOTEL TAX** (Paiva-Weed & Others) This act provides for distribution of 1% of the 6% hotel tax to the communities where the hotels which generated the tax are located. Finance

**S-97 SCHOOL AID** (Fogarty & Others) This act would provide for an annual minimum 5% increase in state aid to education. Finance

**S-103 STATE AID TO VOCATIONAL EDUCATION** (Walsh & Others) This act would require the state to annually pay for the tuition and related costs for students attending a state elementary or secondary vocational education school. The payments would be made directly to the respective schools. Finance

**S-109 STATE AID – DEADLINE** (Walaska & Others) This act would set a deadline for the appropriation of state aid to education for the various cities and towns. Finance

**S-137 SCHOOL AID** (Walsh & Others) This act would provide for an annual minimum 5% increase in state aid to education. Finance

**S-165 VIDEO LOTTERY TERMINALS** (Hunter & Others) This act would increase the host community share of the allocation of net terminal income derived from video lottery games from 1% to 3%. Finance

**S-212 VETERANS' EXEMPTIONS** (Algiere & Others) This act would amend the date beginning the period of service in the Vietnam Conflict from December 22, 1961, to January 1, 1959, for the purpose of veterans' taxation exemptions. Veterans Affairs

**S-213 HOTEL TAX** (Algiere & Walsh) This act would provide that a percentage of the hotel tax shall be distributed to the locality in which the hotel is located. Finance

### **LABOR RELATIONS**

**H-5071 SCHOOL TEACHERS' ARBITRATION** (S. Anderson) This act would require the bargaining agents for teachers and non-teacher employees and a school committee to submit their last best offer as to salary to arbitration, and would require the selection of one offer or the other, which choice and decision would be binding on the parties. Labor

**H-5187 FIREFIGHTERS' ARBITRATION** (Lanzi & Others) This act would require that the rights or benefits conferred upon employees by an expiring collective bargaining agreement would continue until a new agreement is ratified. Labor

### **LIQUOR CONTROL AND LICENSES**

**H-5318 CLASS B LICENSES** (Vieira & Others) This act would grant discretion to municipalities to restrict or prohibit entertainment licenses at establishments with Class B licenses. Judiciary



## **PLANNING AND ZONING**

**H-5301 ZONING ORDINANCES** (Menard & Barr) This act would amend the definition of "Family Day Care Home" and provide a definition for "Family Group Day Care Home" as they pertain to municipal zoning ordinances. Corporations

**H-5364 SALT PONDS** (Gorham & Rabideau) This act would allow the Coastal Resources Management Council to create zones adjacent to salt ponds for recreational purposes. Environment & Energy

**H-5406 OUTDOOR ADVERTISING** (McCauley & Others) This act would prohibit the use of trivision technology in outdoor advertising within 2,500 feet of a residential zone. Corporations

**S-72 ZONING APPEALS** (Walaska & Others) This act would require abutters to be notified of any appeals to a zoning board of review or to the superior court, with the cost of the notice to be borne by the appellant or aggrieved party. Judiciary

## **PUBLIC SAFETY – POLICE AND FIRE**

**H-5048 DESTRUCTION OF UNLAWFUL FIREARMS** (Jacquard & Others) This act establishes a procedure for the forfeiture and destruction of unlawful firearms seized by police departments in the state. Judiciary

**H-5101 FIREFIGHTERS AND POLICE OFFICERS** (Lanzi & Others) This act would provide for a payment of a one time \$100,000 benefit to the family of a firefighter, police officer and certain other persons who are killed or die from injuries sustained in the line of duty. Finance

**H-5140 BULLETPROOF VESTS** (Tejada & Others) This act would make unlawful the sale to anyone or possession of a bulletproof vest by anyone, other than law enforcement personnel, who does not possess a valid hunting license and/or does not register with local police. Judiciary

**H-5144 EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION** (Lanzi & Others) This act establishes a good Samaritan immunity for emergency medical transportation service workers. Judiciary

**H-5146 ASSAULT OF POLICE OFFICERS** (Gallison & Others) This act would add EMT'S and paramedics as officers or officials subject to enhanced penalties. Judiciary

**H-5243 NFPA 1500** (Palumbo & Vieira) This act would impose a fine for failure to comply with the requirement that fire departments implement NFPA 1500. Corporations

**H-5283 MUNICIPAL AMBULANCE SUPPLIES** (Ginaitt) This act would amend the present statute to conform with federal requirements ("safe harbors") regarding acceptable practices for the restocking of ambulances. H.E.W.

**H-5349 RELIEF OF FIREFIGHTERS AND POLICE OFFICERS** (Corvese & Others) This act would delete the statutory definition of "totally and permanently disabled". Labor

**H-5372 F.O.P. MEMBERSHIP PLATES** (Carter & Others) This act would authorize the Registrar of Motor Vehicles to issue special plates to active members and retired full-time police and law enforcement officers who are members of the State Fraternal Order of Police. Special Legislation

**H-5404 NFPA 1500** (Lanzi & Others) This act would impose a fine for failure to comply with the requirement that fire departments implement NFPA 1500. Corporations

**H-5407 RENTAL VEHICLES** (Moran & Others) This act would require the lessor of motor vehicles to forward identifying information pertaining to the lessee and the motor vehicle rented immediately to the Registry of Motor Vehicles. This act would also require the Registry of Motor Vehicles to maintain information collected pursuant to this section in such a manner so that it could be made immediately available to law enforcement agencies. Corporations

**S-15 NOTARIES PUBLIC** (Blais) This act would permit police officers to have notarial powers and exempt them from payment of the commission fee as provided in Section 42-30-5. Judiciary

**S-17 CRIMINAL RECORDS CHECK** (Blais) This act would require the Bureau of Criminal Identification to pay for all costs of criminal background checks required for day care workers. H.E.W.

**S-27 THERMAL IMAGING DEVICES** (Blais & Others) This act would establish a fire safety equipment acquisition fund for the acquisition of thermal imaging devices. Finance

**S-41 ONE TIME DEATH BENEFIT** (Polisena & Others) This act would provide for a payment of a one time \$100,000 benefit to the family of an active or retired firefighter, police officer, correctional officer and certain other persons who are killed or die from injuries sustained in the line of duty. Finance

**S-43 RELIEF OF FIREFIGHTERS AND POLICE OFFICERS** (Polisena & Others) This act would delete the statutory definition of "totally and permanently disabled." Finance

**S-49        DEFIBRILLATORS** (Polisena & Others) This act would mandate that the Department of Health purchase and distribute automated external defibrillators to municipally operated senior citizen centers, and to provide training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and automated external defibrillator use. Finance

**S-68        TESTS FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT CANDIDATES** (Cicilline & Others) This act would require peace officers and employees of private security businesses to take standardized psychological tests prior to being appointed state law enforcement officers. Judiciary

**S-162       COMMISSION ON STANDARDS AND TRAINING** (Enos & Others) This act would require the Commission on Standards and Training to publish mandatory training standards for police officers dealing with individuals who may pose a danger to themselves or others due to mental illness. Special Legislation

**S-163       CIVIL IMMUNITY** (Enos & Others) This act would exempt physicians, qualified mental health professionals and police officers from civil liability when they act pursuant to and in compliance with the mental health certification process. Judiciary

**S-224       WEAPONS** (Damiani & Others) This act would provide for the reissuance of a license or permit to carry a concealed weapon to a person whose license or permit has lapsed. Judiciary

## **RETIREMENT**

**H-5125       HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE OF RETIRED EMPLOYEES** (Levesque) This act would allow retired public school teachers whose employers offered dental and/or prescription coverage to active employees on the date of the retired teacher's retirement, to purchase dental and/or prescription coverage, at their own expense, through their former employer at the group rate for active employees. Finance

**H-5132       PURCHASE OF ADDITIONAL SERVICE CREDITS** (Levesque) This act would provide that state employees, teachers and municipal employees can purchase additional service credits. Finance

**H-5164       TEACHERS' RETIREMENT** (Lima & Others) This act would allow school administrators to work as a substitute after retirement. H.E.W.

**H-5165       TEACHERS' RETIREMENT** (Lima & Others) This act would allow school guidance counselors to work as a substitute after retirement. H.E.W.

**H-5198 PURCHASE OF SERVICE CREDITS** (Moura) This act would permit teachers, state employees and municipal employees to purchase service credits in installments, rather than in one lump sum. Finance

**H-5209 TEACHERS' RETIREMENT** (M. Anderson & Others) This act would allow retired teachers as defined in Section 16-16-1(11) to substitute in administration positions at state and public schools for not more than 90 days in any one school year without a reduction of retirement benefits. Finance

**H-5221 TEACHERS' RETIREMENT** (Faria) This act would require a retired teacher to receive additional benefits if that teacher's income is not at least equal to the federal poverty level. Finance

**H-5225 VESTING – NUMBER OF YEARS** (Faria) This act would reduce the number of years required for vesting in the state retirement system from 10 to 5 years. Finance

**H-5229 ACCIDENTAL DISABILITY** (Barr) This act would amend the provision for determination by a city/town of a police officer's or firefighter's disability for purposes of retirement. Corporations

**H-5389 CONTRIBUTIONS TO STATE SYSTEM** (Barr) This act would reduce the percentage of annual salary a teacher would be required to pay into the state retirement system from 9.5% to 8.5%, and would reduce contributions by all members of the retirement system from 8.5% to 7.5%. Finance

**S-46 TEACHERS' RETIREMENT** (Felag & Others) This act would change the contribution made by the towns and state to the teachers' retirement system. Finance

**S-135 ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES** (Lenihan & Cote) This act would remove the Employees Retirement System of Rhode Island from the list of agencies exempted from the provisions of the Administrative Procedures Act. Judiciary

**S-176 VESTING – NUMBER OF YEARS** (Graziano & Others) This act would reduce the time in which a contributor into the state retirement system would vest from 10 years to 5 years. Finance

**S-191 ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES** (Roney) This act would remove the exemption of the Employees Retirement System of Rhode Island from the Administrative Procedures Act. Judiciary

**S-207 SUBSTITUTE TEACHING AFTER RETIREMENT** (Walsh & Others) This act would permit a retired school teacher to substitute for other certified school personnel, in addition to substituting for an absent school teacher, for a specified period of time. Finance

**S-214 PURCHASE OF SERVICE CREDITS** (Alves & Others) This act would permit teachers, state employees and municipal employees to purchase service credits in installments, rather than in one lump sum. Finance

### **TOWN AND CITY CLERKS**

**H-5089 PROBATE – DESCENT OF REAL ESTATE** (Voccola & Others) This act would permit an estate representative to seek permission to distribute the assets of a decedent to the known heirs at law of the decedent, in certain circumstances, notwithstanding that the representative could not conclusively determine the lack of any other heirs at law. Judiciary

**H-5191 PROBATE – CERTIFICATE OF DESCENT** (Lewiss & Others) This act creates a new probate requirement for all decedent estates containing real estate. The fiduciary shall be required to file in the appropriate land evidence records a certificate of descent which describes all the real property devised by the probate process as well as the names and addresses of all its recipients. Judiciary

**H-5287 ACCESS TO RECORDS** (Barr) This act allows adult adoptees to inspect and/or copy records of their adoption. H.E.W.

**S-141 PROBATE – GUARDIAN AD LITEM** (Roney) This act would eliminate the requirement that a probate court appoint a guardian ad litem in all instances when an interested person requests such an appointment, leaving such appointments to the discretion of the probate court. Judiciary

**S-201 PROBATE – DISALLOWANCE OF CLAIM** (Roney) This act would permit an estate representative to deny a claim filed against an estate in whole or in part. Judiciary

**S-202 PROBATE PRACTICE – GUARDIANS** (Roney) This act would eliminate the requirement that the probate court appoint a guardian for a person in every instance if his/her interest is represented by a person with a substantially similar interest. Judiciary

### **MISCELLANEOUS**

**H-5052 CASINO GAMBLING** (Williamson) This act would be known as the Rhode Island Gaming Control and Revenue Act. It would provide for a regulation of casino gambling if it is established in this state. Finance

**H-5162      UNIFORM EMPLOYMENT TERMINATION** (Levesque) This act would create the Rhode Island Uniform Employment Termination Act which would prohibit an employer from terminating an employee without good cause, and would provide a procedure for arbitration by the Department of Labor of wrongful discharge claims. Labor

**H-5171      TELECOMMUNICATIONS** (Sullivan & Others) This act would prohibit the erection of telecommunications towers in playgrounds. Corporations

**H-5174      AIRPORTS** (McNamara & Others) This act would require the approval of city/town councils prior to any airport expansion as to any airports subject to the authority of the airport corporation. Corporations

**H-5255      DESECRATION OF GRAVE** (Barr) This act would make acts of vandalism to cemeteries and graveyards a felony punishable by up to 5 years imprisonment and a minimum fine of \$10,000. This act would provide that fines be applied to repair the act of vandalism, with any surplus to be applied to acts of vandalism within the same cemetery and then to other cemeteries within the same municipality as the original offense. Judiciary

**H-5258      OPEN MEETINGS** (Lanzi & Others) This act would allow the Attorney General, in addition to all other penalty and remedy provisions as contained in the general laws, to reprimand any public body subject to the open meetings law for failing repeatedly to forward its minutes to the Secretary of State for public disclosure. Judiciary

**H-5330      EMINENT DOMAIN** (Voccola & Others) This act authorizes the governmental payment of damages to businesses which have to close due to condemnation of the property upon which they operate. Judiciary

**H-5357      COSTS OF PLANTING TREES AND SHRUBS** (Savage & Story) This act would provide reimbursement of up to \$7,500 to cities and towns for planting trees or shrubs. Environment & Energy

**H-5360      CASINO GAMBLING** (Fleury & Others) This act would prohibit casino gambling adjacent to residential areas and in other specified locations. Finance

**H-5369      CABLE SERVICE** (Gorham & Others) This act would require cable service companies to provide cable service to all schools and libraries in any abutting unserved area. Corporations

**H-5376      DEVELOPMENT IMPACT FEE ACT** (S. Anderson) This act would provide that impact fees not be imposed on low and moderate income housing. Corporations

**H-5379      RECREATIONAL VEHICLE PARKS AND CAMPGROUNDS ACT** (Aiken & Others) This act would provide for the regulation of recreational vehicle parks and campgrounds. It would provide standards in areas of design and construction, fire safety,

water supplies, sanitary conveniences, refuse disposal, and park operations. Environment & Energy

**H-5401 NEIGHBORHOOD OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM** (Fox & Others) This act would create and fund a program to address the housing and revitalization needs of the state's deteriorating neighborhoods. Finance

**H-5408 T.F. GREEN AIRPORT – NOISE MONITORING** (Lima & Others) This act would require a quarterly report pertaining to the volume and quantity of air traffic at T.F. Green Airport to be submitted to the mayor or town manager and the city/town council of each city/town located within a 10 mile radius of T.F. Green Airport. Corporations

**H-5411 SIDEWALKS AND CURBING** (Barr) This act would provide that one cent per gallon of the motor fuel tax be used to finance the maintenance and reconstruction of sidewalks and curbing along state roads and highways. Finance

**S-13 PLAYGROUNDS** (Blais) This act provides grants to cities and towns for projects undertaken specifically to comply with the Department of Education's and Department of Health's joint health and environment recreational facility safety regulations and/or to provide access for people with disabilities. Finance

**S-30 GAMBLING ACTIVITIES** (Cicilline & Others) This act would require a gambling promoter to file a financial disclosure statement with the Attorney General and the Secretary of State, and increase the number of days within which a town/city council may place a resolution on the ballot from 150 days to 210. Special Legislation

**S-119 REGULATION OF BOATS** (Damiani & Others) This act would increase the required amount of insurance coverage for individuals and/or entities holding motorboat races, and require such coverage to include a provision for indemnity to state and local municipalities for any liability arising from such motorboat race. Corporations

**S-144 DISTRICT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITIES** (Roney) This act would authorize cities and towns to create district management authorities for the purpose of providing the services and undertaking the activities to supplement the services provided by municipal government. Corporations

**S-172 SEXUAL HARASSMENT** (Graziano & Others) This act would require all employers to maintain a record of their sexual harassment policies at their business premises, and to make a copy of such policy available to any state or federal employment discrimination enforcement agency upon request. Labor

**S-203 CODE OF ETHICS** (Paiva-Weed & Others) This act would reduce the number of persons who are required to file financial statements with the Ethics Commission. Judiciary

**S-211      COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES** (Connors & Others) This act would authorize the commission to act as a party of interest on behalf of people with disabilities before any federal, state or local agency or public body regarding matters pending before that agency or public body that may have an adverse effect on persons with disabilities. Judiciary

**S-216      PARKS AND RECREATIONAL AREAS** (Hunter – By Request) This act would require camp and park recreational programs to be licensed by the Department of Environmental Management. Corporations